(c) 5 coaches are run between Delhi and Kotdwara by 40*1 Mussorie Express and 1 Najibabad-Kotdwara passenger in one direction and 8 Kotdwara-Najibabad Passenger and 4042 Mussorie Express in the other with attaching/detaching at Najibabad. The waiting lime at Najibabad is 2-15 hrs. in one direction and 3-30 hrs. in the other.

(d) At present there is no proposal to introduce a direct train between Delhi and Kotdwara.

Rail link between Panvel and Karjat near Bombay

2223. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to frefer" to the answer to Unstarred Question 3616 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th September, 1990 and state :

(a) whether the survey for the rail link between Panvel and Karjat near Bombay has been completed ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what is Government's re -ponse to the survey report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) No, Sir. However, land acquisition has been included in the Budget 1992-93 at a cost of Rs. 5-5 crores.

(b) and (c) Survey has been taken up. Further action will be considered as per result of survey and availabili -ty of resources.

Allocation of amount for the conversion of MG into BG of Dindigul-Trichy

2224. SHRI S.K.T. RAMA CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that rupees two crores have been allocated for the year *1992-93* for the conversion of metre Gauge to Broad Gauge of Dindigul-Trichy line (93 kms.), if so, what works have been undertaken in the current year for implementation of the project ;

(b) the amount which have been allocated for Madras-Villupuram-Virudachalam-TrichyMGto BGline conversion for the year 1992-93 ; and

(c) what are the works to be undertaken for the implementation of this project during 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Conversion of Madras-Chengalpattu has been taken up in the current year for implementation of the project.

(b) and (c) The section from Madras-Beach to Chengalpattu (56 km) is targetted for completion in 1992-93 . Funds as require for this section will be provided by re-appropriation.

Structure on rent or lease on Railway land in Bombay

2335. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many unauthorised structures and the structures given on rent or lease on Railway land outside and round Suburban Railway sttions in Bombay cause hindrance to the free movement of commuter traffic at entrance and esit of Railway Stations ;

(b) if so, the details of these locations and the number of structures involved in each of these sites ;

(c) whether it is a fct that the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay the State Government and various commuters' Associations have been urging the Railways to remove these structures ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) what steps are being taken to keep proper circula.ing area and open spaces at entrance and exit at Suburban Railway Stations in Bombay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kurla (West) — 35 Nos.
Kurla (East) — 1 No.
Mulund — 4 Nos.
Chembur — 1 No.
Vikhroli — 25 Nos.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Railways have initiated action for cancellation of licences and removal of shops which interfere with the smooth movement of passengers.

Completion of Mangalore-Udipi Section

2226. SHRJ SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the MANGALORE-UDIPI Section of the Konkan Railway has been completed and is likely to be opened traffic very soon ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Work is nearing completion. The section will be opened during 92-93.

Road over-bridges at south of Ghatkopar Railway station in Bombay

2227. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay had finalised and submitted a scheme for widening of the existing Road Over-Bridge South of Ghatkopar Railway Station in Bombay ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the proposed scheme of widening and reconstruction involves extension of bridge for providing additional future Railway tracks ;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that the cost of the project would be shared by the Railways and the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay ;

(d) what is Government's response to this project ; and

(e) by when the work is expected to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) The original proposal for widening of Road over bridge at Ghatkopar was withdrawn by Bombay Municipal Corporation on account of its non feasibility. Instead the proposal for a new bridge was initiated. No progress could be made so far, because the requisite charges for Plans and Estimate have not been deposited with the Railways.

(b) to (e) The positon will crystalise only after the detailed survey and investigations, which will be undertaken after the necessary deposit by Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Railway agencics for sale of tickets

2228. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways provide agencies for sale of Railway Tickets to private individuals in some cities ; and

(b) if so, what is the procedure required to be followed by individuals to apply for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In some cities, depending upon traffic requirements, City Booking Agents are appointed on contract basis for sale of passenger tickets. the contracts are awarded to the most suitable candidate on merits by calling for competitive tenders through press advertisements.

Mass rapid transit system in Madras

2229. SHRI S.K.T. RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the status of the project 'Mass Rapid Transit System' under execution in Madras ;

(b) by when the project is likely to be completed ;

(c) what was the yearwise allotment made for the project during the last three years and what is the allotment made for the current year and what is the cumulative expenditure so far incurred ; and

(d) what is the estimate of further requirements to complete the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Madras Beach-Park Town section of the project has been completed and opened for traffic. Work on the balance length is likely to be completed by 1995, subject to availability of funds.

(c) (i)1989-90—Rs. 9.85 crores
1990-91—Rs. 11.10 crores
1991-92 Rs. 16.00 crores

(ii) 1992-93—Rs. 14.00 crores

(iii) Expenditure upto 31-3-92 is Rs. 69.15 crores.

(d) Further requirement of funds to complete the project would be known only after the revised estimate of the project is prepared.

Report of Comptroller and Auditor General for Western and Central Zone Railways

2230. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHADDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General, in his report for 1990-91, had indicted the Western and Central Zone Railways amongst other things, for disposing of scrap at prices much below the prevailing market prices ;

(b) if so, how far below the market rates the scrap of different types was sold, and what was the loss involved in the whole transaction ; and

(c) what steps have since been taken to prevent such practices in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Following measures already exist :

(i) Sale of scrap is conducted through public auctions or through open tender to the highest bidder.

(ii) Senior officers from Headquarter monitor rates realised in auctions in the nearby locations as also market trend of scrap rates etc.

(iii) Prior to auction, reserve price of various categories of scrap that are put up for auction is fixed keeping in view the recent auction prices and other information like

prevailing market trend, condition of scrap materials, market trend of iron and steel etc.

Ban on recruitment in Railways

2231. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Wilt the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an is a fact that Government have decided to prune 25 percent of the total strength of Railway employees by imposing a ban on recruit ment during the current year ; and

(b) if so, the deails thereof ?

THE'MINISTIR OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does noi rise.

Development of Railway Station as Model Stations

2232. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be phased to stale :

(a) this number of Railway Stations (State-wise) proposed to be developed as model Railway Stations :

(b) the stations developmed as model Railway Stations so far :

(c)the details of facilities available in these stations :

(d) whether more stations have been identified for , heir development as model stations ; and

(e) if so. the details thereof '?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) (Statewise number of stations which were selected to be developed as model stations is as under :—

1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Assam	4
3.	Bihar	8
4.	Delhi	1
5.	Gujarat	3
6.	Haryana	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
9.	Kerala	1
10.	Karnataka	3
11.	Maharashtra	8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7
13.	Orissa	1
14.	Punjab	1
15.	Rajasthan	5
16.	Tamil Nadu	4
17	Uttar Pradesh	9
18.	West Bengal	5
	TOTAL :	67

Development works at Lumding and Tinsukia stations in Assam have been dropped in view of Guwaha i-L umding-Tinsukia-Dibrugarh gauge conversion project.

(b) Works at 22 stations, viz. Lucknow Jn. (NER). Kathgodam, Allahabad City, Samastipur, Gorakhpur Jn. Durgapur, Dhanbad Jn.. Malda Town, Bhiwani, Madurai. Tiruchchirappalli Jn., Bellary Jn., Bilaspur. Ahmedabad, Junagadb. Jaipur Jn., Ajmer Jn., Agra For.. Indore, Bharat pur Jn., and Rajko Jn.. have since been completed.

(c) Under this scheme, additional amenities like waiting halls, seating arrangement s, drinking water supply,

water coolers, sanitised latrines, lighting arrangements, proper booking arrangements, suitable platforms with adequate shelter and pucca surface, fans on platforms and waiting halls/rooms, upper class waiting rooms, bathrooms, retiring rooms, refreshment rooms, etc. have been provided at these stations so as to cater to the traffic requirements of the future. These stations have been developed in a manner so that they serve as 'Models' for the stations in their vicinity as regards provision of passenger amenities.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Dose not arise

Special quota in A.C. Sleeper A.C. Chair Car in the trains

2233. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI ;

DR. BALDEV PRAKASH: DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seats of special quota in A.C. Sleeper, A.C. Chair Car and Ilnd 3-fier, category-wise in all trains leavi ng from all stations in Delhi and what are the criteria for this quota ;

(b) what are the criteria for the allocation of these seats ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the request of M.Ps. for allocation of seats in emergencies is ignored, and if so, the number of requests received from M.Ps. and the number of requests ignored during the last three months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):
(a) to (c) A limited number of berths/seats in various classes on trains originating from or passing through stations in Delhi area has been earmaked as Emergency Quota for complying with the demand of high official requisitions/ VIPs and other emergent lequests. Requests received from various quarters including Members of Parliament for release of berths out of the Emeigency Quota are given due priority taking into account factors like status of the passenger travelling, nature of urgency like Government duty, bereavement, stck-ness, etc. However, at l5mes, when the demand exceeds the availablility, it is not possible to accomodate all requests. As a large number of requests are received and dealt with on day-to-day basis, break-up of the requests received from various quarters is not maintained.

Rail accident in South Central Zone

2234. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents that took place in South Central Zone during the last one year ;

(b) what is the estimated loss of life, property and revenue ;

(c) what are the findings of inquiry commissions ; and

(d) what steps have been taken to implement the recommendations of inquiry Commissions so that such accidents may not recur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) There were 64 consequential train accidents on South Central Railway during 1991-92.

(b) As per available information, 24 persons lost their lives in these accidents. The cost of damage to railway propery has been estimated

as Rs. 5 49 crores. It is not possible to quantify the loss of revenue on account of these accidents.

(c) and (d) No Commission under the Commission of Inquiry Act was appointed to go into any of the train accidents on South Central Railway during 1991-92. However, three serious accidents are being inquired into by the Commissioners of Railway Safety, who function under the control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism. The findings of the Commissioners are awaited.

राजधानी एक्सप्रेस में यात्रा सुविधायें

2235. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नई दिल्ली-हावड़ा के बीच चलने वाली राजधानी एक्सप्रेस में नई दिल्ली से इलाहाबाद जाने और इलाहाबाद से नई दिल्ली आने के लिए यात्रियों को किन-किन श्रेणियों में यात्रा करने की अनुमति है ; और

(ख) इस रेलगाड़ी में कितने यात्रियों को प्रथम श्रेणी में आरक्षण कोटा उपलब्ध है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) नई दिल्ली और इलाहाबाद के बीच 2301/2302 राजधानी एक्सप्रेस गाड़ियों द्वारा यात्रियों को इलाहाबाद के लिए नियत कोटा के अनुसार वातानुकूल शयनयान और वातानुकूल कुर्सीयान में बुक किया जाता है ।

(ख) इस गाड़ी में पहले दर्जे का स्थान उपलब्ध नहीं है ।

अलाभकारी रेल लाइनों का निजीकरण

2336. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार अलाभकारी रेल-लाइनों का निजीकरण किए जाने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है, और किन-किन रेल लाइनों का निजीकरण किए जाने का निर्णय लिया गया है ; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) से (ग) यद्यपि ऐसी कई शाखा लाइनें है जिनसे रेलों को आवर्ती हानि हो रहा है, फिर भी इन लाइनों का निजीकरण करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Fere Railway passes to Ex-M.Ps.

2237. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Ex-Membefs of Parliament likely to be benefitted by Railway Ministry's decision to issue them free railway passes ;

(b) the estimated expenditure to be incurred due to this decision ;

(c) whether it is a fact that railways propose to allow the companion, with ex~M.Ps. and extend this, facility to all ex-M.Ps. irrespective of the duration of their term ;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) As on 1-4-1992, the number of Ex-MPs who were drawing pension from Parliament and would thus be eligible for railway passes was 1523. This excludes the ex-MPs who are eligible to draw, but are not actually drawing, pension from the Parli-ment. In view of this, the tot el expenditure cannot be worked out.

(c) No, Sir.